

VENDOR VIEWPOINT NEWSLETTER

October 2023

WHOLE GRAIN BREAD STOCKING REQUIREMENTS

Nevada WIC has minimum stocking requirements for authorized stores for particular WIC foods, including whole grain bread. Stores MUST always have six loaves of whole grain bread in the 16 oz. size. Buns and rolls meeting the whole grain requirement are also approved in the 16 oz. size. WIC staff may be checking stores for minimum stock.

WIC temporarily allowed larger sizes of bread during the pandemic, but the waiver for larger loaves has expired. Here are some of the brands with a 16 oz. loaf (the website has a complete list <https://nevadawic.org/vendors/food-package-information/>):

- Bimbo
- Franz
- Home Pride
- Nature's Harvest
- Nature's Own
- Rainbow
- Oroweat
- Sara Lee

If you have a store brand or other brands meeting the requirement of whole grain being the first ingredient, you may submit the UPC for approval using the WICShopper App or through the website: <https://nevadawic.org/vendor-food-submission/>



INFANT FORMULA

Nevada WIC requires vendors to purchase formula from an authorized source. Infant formula is a target product for counterfeiters. It is critical to an infant's health that formula provided for them is authentic and contains essential nutrients that help their brains develop and their bodies grow strong and healthy. Counterfeit formulas may not provide the critical nutrients that are needed for babies to grow and develop, and they may contain toxins and nonfood elements.

Providing formula for infants is one of the many ways WIC helps to insure the health of children. Children who are healthy as infants, toddlers and preschoolers do better in school, require fewer special services, are healthier as school-age children, and have fewer developmental struggles, saving taxpayers the costs of specialized healthcare and educational support.

A list of the authorized formula providers is found on the Nevada WIC website: <https://nevadawic.org/vendors/training-resource-materials/>

CASH VALUE BENEFIT



The WIC Cash Value Benefit (CVB) differs from other WIC foods, since it can be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as canned or frozen fruits and vegetables up to the cash value allowed on a WIC participant's food benefit package. There was a temporary increase in CVB amounts during the pandemic. That increase expired September

30, 2023, and amounts returned to the previous level, adding one dollar for inflation. Good news! WIC has decided to keep the increase and the higher amount has now been restored. Current CVB amounts are: \$47 for pregnant and postpartum participants, \$52 for breastfeeding, \$26 for toddlers and children.

REAUTHORIZATION

Mark your calendar!

The Nevada WIC Program's Open Enrollment for the agreement period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027, begins April 1, 2024. All stores interested in becoming an Authorized Nevada WIC Vendor for the new agreement period must apply for this authorization. Notification of open enrollment will be sent in March. The agreements for stores that are currently authorized will expire on September 30, 2024.

- A new Vendor Application must be submitted by all interested vendors, even if currently authorized, for the new agreement period.
- A complete application must be done for each store location. Incomplete applications cannot be processed.
- New vendors may apply any time throughout the year.

PRODUCE MAPPING

Nevada WIC is formulating a policy around mapping produce to a UPC or PLU. Once the policy is approved, a training will be provided to produce managers or the team responsible for pricing and UPCs in your store. Prior to that training, please manually enter the PLU 4469 for produce without a UPC. More information and PLU or UPC codes can be found at the website for the International Federation for Produce Standards:

<https://www.ifpsglobal.com/>.



CASHIER QUESTIONS

Can a WIC participant purchase larger than 16 oz sizes of bread?

- Larger bread sizes were temporarily allowed during the pandemic. However, that temporary waiver expired and now stores MUST stock the 16 oz. size of whole grain bread as that is the ONLY size WIC authorizes.

It's the last day of the month and a WIC participant is asking to have cash back from the CVB, since there is a balance remaining on the benefit. Is this allowed?

- No. Participants may not get change back or return food for cash. Allowing this is a violation of your WIC agreement.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your questions to:

DPBHWICVendor@health.nv.gov

Or

Nevada State WIC Program
400 W. King St. Ste. 305
Carson City, NV 89703

You can find helpful information about the Nevada WIC program requirements at:

<http://nevadawic.org/vendors>

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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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